[This transcript was created by LAI staff. It is as true a representation of the original as we could create. When a word was too difficult to decipher or was questionable we put those words in brackets. All text in brackets represents the voice of the transcriber rather than the voice of the letter writer. We have not maintained the spacing that exists in the original letters because that was not compliant with our accessibility standards. We are left justifying most lines.]

[citation information]
Collection title: Corcoran Gallery of Art and Corcoran College of Art + Design, Corcoran Gallery of Art directors' records
Collection number: COR-0002-0-RG
Series 1: MacLeod, Barbarin and McGuire records
Subseries 1: Indexed correspondence
Box 2008-001
Folder 42: Letters 411-420

[Front of Letter 411]
Bland, Tho., Asst Secty, Met Mus of Art New York, Sept 30,1874
Oct 1/74
Ack receipt of Catalogue

[Letter 411]

[Letterhead of The Metropolitan Museum of Art: New York.]
30th Sept. 1874

Wm. MacLeod Esq., Curator, Corcoran Gallery of Art

Dear Sir,

I have your favor of the 26th with printed catalogue, and thank you for your promise to forward copy of the intended new edition, which will be very acceptable to our Trustees.

In case, from any cause, the papers which I forwarded, [which?] arrived at the date of your letter, should fail to reach you, pray inform me - in that case another copy shall be sent.

Yours respectfully,
Tho. Bland
Asst Secty

[Front of Letter 412]
Chapman, Miss., Washington, May 22/74
Offers a picture by Schedoni for sale.

[Letter 412]

Washington, D.C., 22nd May 1874

To the Board of Trustees of the Corcoran Art Gallery

Gentlemen -

It is desired to call your attention to a very beautiful picture, belonging to the estate of the late Dr. Chapman of Philadelphia; and was to be seen at the jewelry store of Bailey & Co of that City - corner of Chestnut and Twelfth Streets.

This picture was presented to Dr. Chapman by Joseph Bonaparte, brother of the first Napoleon - and is an original by “Schedoni” - this artist afterwards painted another - an exact copy of this - which is in the Pitts Palace in Florence. It is called “Charity” or “La Carita” and is of full length life size - three figures - a woman, with a beautiful child at her side - giving [a lens?] outside of dark [current works?] - [illegible] [authentication?] It was always [affirmed?] by Joseph Bonapart, that this was the only picture that the Allies, did not recover.

The owner’s of it, are in possession of its credentials given to Dr. Chapman, with the picture - and written for Joseph Bonaparte by his private Secretary Monsieur Maillard, when he resided at Bordentown, New Jersey.

This picture is now for sale - and could be brought to Washington, and put on exhibition at the Corcoran Gallery, or Mr. Walters could see it at Bailey & Co’s in Philadelphia - and could be shown the paper certifying its authenticity etc.

Any information you may desire will be furnished gladly by Miss Chapman, and a letter addressed to her, care of Mr. de Potestad Spanish Legation Washington, will not fail to reach her.

[Front of Letter 413]
Sartain, John, Phila. Sept 25/74
Sept 26, Oct 6/74
Thanks for promised Photographs. Has recvd donations of statues for Academy. Size of proposed new Building.

[Letter 413]

[Letterhead of the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, Philadelphia]
Sept. 25th 1874, 728 Sansom St.

Wm. MacLeod Esq.

Dear Sir,

Your esteemed favor of yesterday's date is received. In my hurry in writing to you I forgot to say that the photographs will be most acceptable and we shall be much obliged to you for them. Please send them to my address and leave the freight to be paid at this end.

I am gratified to find that all remembrance of me has not passed from W. Corcoran's mind, my own recollection of him is of the most pleasurable character. I saw him frequently during my residence in Florence and was recipient of his courtesies. Please present my regards when you see him.

We have just received another donation to our collection, a statue by the Italian sculptor Lombardi of Deborah - & its pedestal. That which preceded it was a statue by Story of Jerusalem, heroic size. The opening of both of them will be deferred until our new edifice is finished when they will be seen in our first exhibition there. We have just made another purchase of ground adjoining our building, seventy one feet on Broad Street and a hundred and forty seven feet deep. This gives us a front on Broad Street of 171 feet and a front on Cherry Street of 260 feet.

Economise as we will it is clear that before we are through with our work we shall have spent half a million of dollars on ground, building, and furniture. But the jewels we have ready to enclose will be worthy of the Casket.

I am more and more desirous to come and see your building and its collections, and will not fail to do so on the first opportunity, but you would hardly imagine how numerous and pressing my engagements are.

Yours truly,
John Sartain

[Letter 414]

[Enclosed Bill of Lading from Lherbette Kane & Co.]
Per "Leipzig", Havre, 28th Aug. 1874

A. Hyde Esq., Secretary, Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington

We beg to hand you herewith one Bill of Lading of the following package 'Corcoran Gallery of Art - 19'. Shipped on board the present conveyance for your port as per instructions received from our Paris office. Our charges have been collected in reimbursement as under -

Yours very truly
Lherbette Kane Co.

[Back of Letter 414]
Lherbette Kane & Co., Havre, Aug 30/74
Sept 15/74
Encloses Bill of Lading of one case, per 'Leipzig'

[Front of Letter 415]
Walters, W.T., Balt., Sept 19/74
Encloses R.R. Recpt. Painting.

[Letter 415]

Balto 19th Sept 74

Mr. MacLeod

I enclose receipt for Desgoffe shipped today.

Your friend,
W.T. Walters

[Enclosed Dray Ticket, Baltimore & Ohio Railroad]

[Front of Letter 416]
Walters, W.T., Balt., Sept. 28, 1874
Sept 29/74
With regard to Bronzes. Will write about Apollo. R.R. Recpt. Bronzes.

[Letter 416]

Balto. 28th Sept 74

Mr. W MacLeod

Dear Sir

You were mistaken - the Seal of the Custom House here indicated not that it was to be examined at your place, but that it was not-

The Bronzes you will notice except two are small - [illegible] if they wanted [the?] Cast should I think [have?] given us cost here not cost in Rome - but if you have offered it at latter it may alter it - certainly we don't want it -

You and Mr. Riggs act in this matter - I will endeavor to get down when the Bronzes arrive.

[Illegible]

[Your friend?]
W.T. Walters
I will write at once about the Apollo but I can't think it would be sent.

[Enclosed Dray Ticket, Baltimore & Ohio Railroad]

[Front of Letter 417]
Walters, W.T., Balt Sept 30/74
[Oct 1/74, 1/74?]
Encloses R.R. Recpt for case of Bronzes.

[Letter 417]

Balto 30th Sept 74

Mr W MacLeod

Dear Sir

I enclose receipt for two of the cases Bronzes - which are not to be examined, the remaining one has gone to our Custom House and after examination will be forwarded to you likely tomorrow - and will not be subject to any further examination.

Respectfully,
W.T. Walters

[Enclosed Dray Ticket, Baltimore & Ohio Railroad]

[Front of Letter 418]
Weir, John F., Yale College, New Haven, Oct 2. 1874
Oct 5/74, 6/74
Thinks Discobolus had best be sent by rail. Will pay [expense] of packing etc. Offers to deliver a Lecture on Ghiberti Gate.

[Letter 418]

(the photographs have not yet arrived)
Yale College, New Haven, Oct 2nd 1874

Mr. Wm. MacLeod

Dear Sir,

I must thank you for your kind and prompt interest on the matter of the 'Discobolus'. I agree with you that it would be better to ship it by Rail - and I hope it is not putting you to too great trouble in [securing?] that it is properly packed. The matter of expense I shall leave with you, as whatever you name will be satisfactory. I have long wanted to get a copy of this work, but our means only [illegible] of very gradual [additions?] to the Collection.

Your advance on this matter suggests that it would be an advantage to establish reciprocal relations between the Museums of New York, [Boston?], Washington & New Haven, [which?] might prove mutually beneficial. This is the established custom among museums of Archeology & Natural Hist. and your plan with regard to your published photographs suggests a like [course with respect?] to Art Collection [which?] I shall bear in mind.

Please forward the cast with the bill of expenses at your convenience.

Very truly yours
John F. Weir

P.S. I am to deliver a course of lectures on Art at The Peabody Institute, Baltimore, early in Jan'y, and as I have a lecture prepared on the 'Ghiberti Gates' - illustrated by means of [Nu Hydro-oxygenat?] [illegible], if it would be of any interest in the way of [illegible] in [fine?] work, I would very willingly deliver it at the Corcoran Gallery, free of charge, with the exception of [the fare?] expenses. If the offer is not [within?] your present plans you [illegible] have no hesitancy in declining it.

Truly yours,
John F. Weir

[Front of Letter 419]
Sartain, John, Phila. Oct 7, 1874
Oct 8/74, 8/74
Ack receipt of Photographs. Wishes to know where the Architrave around gate can be obtained.

[Letter 419]

Phila. Oct. 7th, 1874, 728 Sansom St.

Wm. MacLeod Esq.

Dear Sir,

Your favor of yesterday's date is received, as is also the package by Express of Photographs from the Corcoran Gallery Collection. For these accept thanks. On Monday next is the meeting of our Directors when they will be laid before them.

I am glad to see that you have the Architrave around the Ghiberti Gates. I was not sure whether casts of it complete existed. We have the gates complete but not the surrounding border of fruits, flowers, and animals. Can you tell me where & how the latter is to [be] obtained?

Yours truly,
John Sartain

[Front of Letter 420]
Latimer, H.R., Brooklyn, Oct. 7./74
Oct 8, 1874
Offers Paintings for sale. "Adml Farragut's Fleet Passing the Forts" by de'Haas. Landscape 'Bethel Maine'
Declined Nov. 8/74

[Letter 420]

[Letterhead of the Brooklyn Art Association]
Brooklyn, Oct 8th 1874

W.W. Cochren Esq., Washington City D.C.

My dear Sir:

Having just had one of your Washington Citizens to visit our Art Gallery No 174 Montague, from Brooklyn N.Y. who admiring my pictures exceedingly and who informed me that Mr. Cochren was a great lover of fine paintings, I take liberty of dropping these few lines, to inform you dear Sir, that among the choice Collection now in the Gallery I have a large Painting by Mr. M.F.H. de'Haas (who is considered certainly the best Marine Artist in this Country) of "Admiral Farragut's Fleet's Passing the Forts" in the taking of N.O. April 24, 1862. The size of the Canvas is 5.x9. ft & a fine frame.

This painting is considered by [our?] best Artist's as a masterly piece of art and in every respect truthful, as Admiral Farragut gave the Artist the history of the conflict and all the surroundings as he painted it by his direction etc.

It should have been long ago in the Capital at Washington as an "Historical Painting", but Admiral F, passing away suddenly, it did not get there - I would now dispose of it at a much less price to you than would have been taken for it then. Should you deem it worthy of your consideration, please have the kindness to drop me a line on the subject and by so doing confer a great favor on -

Very truly yours,
H.R. Latimer
Brooklyn Art Association, 174 Montague St.

P.S. I have also a very splendid Landscape of "Bethel Maine" 4x8 ft canvas & fine frame that has been pronounced as one of the finest natural Landscape any where to be found that I would sell at a great sacrifice. Very truly yours H.R.L.